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Humphreys, Rebecca Goodart and Mrs. Berry, £500 each; a mortgage on his estate at White Church, with interest, £2,230. According to Perry, the White Church estate could have been sold for £4,000.

So much for the eventful career, the wayward character and the unsavory memory of the handsome and dashing Col. Daniel Parke.

Authorities: Perry's *Colonial Church*; *Calendar of Virginia State Papers, I*; Sainsbury's *Abstracts*; Campbell's *History of Virginia*; Anderson's *Colonial Church*; *Memoir of G. W. P. Custis*, by Mrs. R. E. L., prefixed to *Custis' Recollections of Washington*; *Dictionary of National Biography*; Coxe's *Life of Marlborough*; Murray's *Letters and Dispatches of Marlborough*; Meade's *Old Churches and Families of Virginia*.]

LETTERS FROM AND TO GEORGE HUME OF VIRGINIA, FORMERLY OF WEDDERBURN, SCOTLAND.

[The Hume Pedigree begins with Sir David Hume, of Wedderburn, Berwickshire, Scotland, named in a charter of 1450.

The table given in the second volume of Drummond's "Noble British Families" extends the line far beyond Sir David of Wedderburn, fixing its source in Patrick Hume, second son of Gospatrick, the fourth Earl of Dunbar and March, who died in the year 1166. It relates to the three families of Dunbar, Hume, and Dundas; the former being the elder family and the two latter derived from it. For particulars of the line these tables may be consulted.

George Hume, the then head of the House of Wedderburn, died in 1720. He had married, October 4, 1695, Margaret, daughter of Sir Patrick Hume, of Lumsden, and of this marriage there survived him six sons, viz: David, who succeeded him as Laird, and died without issue in 1764; George, Patrick, Francis, John, and James; and two daughters, viz: Margaret, who married Ninian Home, of Jardensfield, and Jane, who married Rev. John Todd, minister of "Lady Kirk."

George, the second of the six sons above named, is the progenitor of the family in America. He was born at Wedderburn Castle, Berwickshire, Scotland, May 30, 1697; came to Spotsylvania county, Va., and

settled in the county of Culpeper, Virginia, in 1721; engaged in land surveying as an occupation, the bond given at that time now of record at Orange Courthouse, Va.; married Elizabeth Proctor, of Fredericksburg, Va., 1728, and died in Culpeper in 1760, leaving six children, all sons, viz: George, Francis, John, William, James, and Charles.

The first two letters from George Hume are from some printed pages in the Virginia State Library. These pages are evidently part of some Parliamentary paper, and are no doubt a part of evidence before the House of Lords in the cases of claims made for the Earldom of Marchmont, formerly in the Home family.

The other letters were contributed by the late Frank Hume, Esq., of Washington City and Alexandria county, Va., who was a descendant of George Home or Hume, the emigrant.

Francis Hume or Home, uncle of George Hume who came to Virginia, took part in the Rebellion of 1715, and was one of the Jacobite prisoners sold in Virginia in 1716. He became a factor for Governor Spotswood and his nephew, in the first letter, refers to his death.

It is very unusual to find such an extended correspondence between an emigrant to Virginia and his family at home. It has been, therefore, deemed advisable to print the whole. Occasional explanatory words have been added in brackets by the editor.

Patrick, Francis, John and James Hume, brothers of the emigrant, were all in the English Navy.]

HASTINGS, YORK RIVER,
June ye 24th, 1743.

D'r B'r

I have ye pleasure to acquaint you that we arrived here on Tuesday last. I had some thoughts before we arrived to have done myself the pleasure of waiting on you but am obliged to give over that thought at present for we have had a long passage & ye ship wants a good dale of overhauling amongst the rigging & it is impossible for me to be spared & Capt'n Dandridge being the Senior Capt'n, is in great hurry to have us out again. We are to relieve ye St. Sea. Castle & to be stationed here some time. if it suits with your conveniency I should be glad to have ye happiness of seeing you here. There's no news of particular worth mentioning till we have the pleasure of meeting, any further than all friends are well. Jno. excepted but he is much the better of going to Scotland.

I am Your Most Aff't Broth'r

JAS. HUME.

P. S. if you should write to me direct to Lieut. of his Maj'st Ship Hastings York. We have brought a very good prize with us.

HASTINGS YORK RIVER, June 30th, 1743.

D'r B'r

I wrote to you the 25th of this month at our arrival here but since I herd you had moved from where you lived before and meeting with this opportunity I did not care to let this slip in case the other should not come to hand. I directed it to the care of Mr. Eleot Bengier at Fredericksburg. We shall go out on a cruize in a bout a fortnight or three weeks. If it suits with your conveniency should be glad to have ye happiness of seeing you before we sail, but we are to be stationed here some time. Our prize was condemned on Monday last, & I am

Your Most Aff't Broth'r

JAS. HUME.

P. S. If you have any opportunity of writing direct to our Lieut'nt of his Maj'st Ship Hastings, to be left at the Swan, York. I have wrote one of the same date by Mr. Waler, Williamsburg.

JAS. HUME.

HASTINGS, HAMPTON ROAD.

Decr. ye 16th 1743.

D'r Broy'r.

We are just getting under sail & I am going ab'd ye sloop but my messmate will not part w'th John w'ch I am very glad off for he is much better abd. ye ship than he can be w'th me till we get into a warmer climent & as soon as we get there I shall have him with me again. Youll excuse haist. I shall have not time to say any more than my compliments to my sister and Miss. Jeany Dunwoodie if you should see her & I am your

Most Aff'ct Broth'r

JAS. HUME.

P. S. Jno is very well and likes ye ship.

HASTINGS, HAMPTON ROAD.

April ye 17th 1744.

D'r Broth'r

I have ye pleasure to aquent you we arrd. here from Antegua ye 13th inst. in 15 days passage. I have some thoughts of being in Williamsburg soon but if I should not have an oppertunity I shall be glad to see you abd. Youll heare when you come to the Court whether we are gone a cruize or not. I have nothing particular any farthur than we had not the good fortune to meet w'th anything since our departure from this place. Jack is well and desires his duty to you all.

I am Your Most Aff't Broth'r

JAS. HUME.

P. S. I have herd nothing of the bear skin you sent to Mr. Dixon, he being in ye country. I desire when you come down youll bring ye Ginsang and different sorts of Snake roots. If we should be gone out send them to Mr. Charles at York.

HASTINGS, HAMPTON ROAD.

June ye 24th 1744.

D'r Broth'r

I recd. yours of ye 13th instant. The ship is going up to Norfolk to heave done, but theres a sloop fitting out for a privateer to guard ye coast till ye ship come down again and she is to be manned out of our ships Company & I believe I shall command her but I intend to leave Jno. ab'd in order to go to school at Norfolk w'ch I think is much better than going to sea in a small vessell w'th me. If you can have a good oppertunity you may send ye snake roots and Ginsang. If not bring it yourself, as you promised Lord Banff some, lett it be put up from mine & if you should come down & I may be gone to sea in ye sloop youll be sure to see Jno. at Norfolk & Likewise the rest of ye gentlemen who will be glad to see you & leave what snake root & ginsang you intend for me at Mrs. Bordlands in Hampton as I shall be once a month or five weeks there. The

gentlemen of the mess desires their Comp'ts to you. John desires his duty to you & Mother and love to his Brothers.

I am Your Most Aff't Broth'r

JAS. HUME.

This sloop is to fitted out at the expense of the colony but manned & victualed by the King.

BANFF SLOOP, HAMPTON ROAD.

Sep. ye 4th 1744.

D'r Broth'r

The last cruize I was out I had ye misfortune to spring my mast w'ch occasioned my coming in for a new one and I am now going on another cruize but shall be in again in about three weeks, hence at w'ch time we expect ye ship will be down from Norfolk. Jack is at school at Norfolk and makes great progress in his arathmetick. We expect the London fleet here every day w'th one Capt'n Dugles in the Mairmaid, a ship of 40 guns to relieve us. If it suits with your convaniency I should be glad to see you about three or four weeks hence & I am

Your Most Aff't Broth'r

JAS. HUME.

P. S. be sure to bring ye snake roots and Ginsang for Lord Banff & me.

TILLBERG AT SEA.

Aug. ye 13th 1747.

D'r Broth'r

I was favoured with yours by Jas. Hunter at our arrivel from the Meditaranian where we passed last Winter and one about eighteen months agoe but we have been almost constantly at sea ever since this ship have been commissioned that I never had the opportunity of meeting with a ship bound your way or otherwise I should have wrote often to you. When we came home in the Hastings we was paid off at Chatham. I took a trip to Scotland where I found every bodie well but had not been long their before Lord Banff had the command of this

ship. I being appointed his first Lieutenant was obliged to leave it before I had seen all my Relatives & indeed much sooner than I intended—if ther had been a possibility of helping of it. As to your son Jack I can scarce give you any acct. of him nor do I well know what to do w'th him. When I first come home I put him to school & and since he has been with me here and had the advantage of a school master and take to nothing neither his books nor of being a seaman that in all this 3 years he can not work a common case of plain sailing, nor does he know how many points theres in ye compass so that he never will be fitt for anything but to drive hogs in the woods. As soon as we gett to England again from convoying the fleet we now have in charge the Tilberg is to be fitted for the East Indies but I shall not go out in her if theres a possibility of getting clear of her. However I shall write more particular to you next opportunity. I was in London about three weeks agoe. James Hunter was there in town but did not see him. I have had promises of being made a Capt'n ever since I came from Virginia but the parlament interest goes so far as present that them who wants it must go wihout being provided for ill it be over and in short the Scots interest at this time goes but a very little way. Theres some other things I could mention more particularly with regard to you, but dont care to do it at this distance or at least at this time & I am

Your Most Aff't Broth'r

JAS. HUME.

ERDRAM, April 7th 1751.

Dear Brother.

I a long time agoe red yours and can make no further excuse than that I was for four years rooming in Edinbrought for the edication of my young family and mind it nothing else. I do asshore you a coraspondence would be most acceptable to me so often as I could have it. Youll see I have so far taken your last advice that a God Almighty was pleased to deprive me of the one brother I had the other at my devotions who I do asshore you proves a cind and loving husband. His son has pro-

cured a small fortune as much as makes a very comfortabell
 liffe though Mr. Home of Billie left his son of the second mar-
 riage 10000 pounds Stirling fortune & all his younger children
 good porshun but he was never reconciled to his son my hus-
 band who is the only one alive of the first marriage upon acct.
 of myself against Sister Peggy's marriage and his. It were
 useless to tell you the situation of a few when the bearer hereof
 Ninian Home my eldest son can inform you ever particular.
 It was useless to write you the situationt of his business. Ask
 him & than I hope you will act the part of a parent in a strange
 country to give him your countenance and best advice. Youll
 find him but a young boye, a stranger to the world and willing
 to take the advice of the best of his friends. I will expect to
 hear from you by the return of the ship though he proposes not
 to return so soon, providing he ceapt his health in the climet.
 I beg you will advise him & yeous him as your own & also would
 let me know if I can serve or be of any yeous to you in this
 place. The same ship we expect will return to Virginy next
 year at this time. You have also letter from your brother
 which will gave you account of their affairs if not Miria can.
 Sister Jeans husband does every thing that may be disagree-
 able to her family and my Mr. Home did every thing that might
 be agreeable to mine which was the only thing brought us into
 reconcilment—all other things I refer you to the bearer who I
 hope shall befor him, with my cincer good wishes to you & all
 your family from

Your Most Aff't Sister

ISABELL HOME.

ERDROM June ye 16th 1752.

Dear Brother,

I can make no appologe for so seldom a coraspondance but
 that we lay out of the way of knowing when ships went off and
 sometimes could not find a direction. I recd a letter from you
 some months agoe but as my son want for your country some
 months before and was strongly reconnended to enquire for
 you on his first arrivel he having letter from us & his uncles
 reccommending him to your care and advice and at receipt of

yours as you had not seen him I thought it needlice to write till I herd from him, which I have frequently done but he never has spoak wan word of you nor of any bodie else that his uncle the Capt'n gave him letters to. His pappa has wrot him to let us know about you. the last we had he told us he never had recd a letter from this country so we must suspend our thoughts a little longer in hopes by this time you have mett. I lifft to give you a full account of the situation of friends and acquaintances when you receive this I will expect to hear from you by the first opportunity and also would be sattisfied to hear more frequentlly and also where in or what it lay in my power to serve you in this place. I should be redy & glad of an opportunity. My Mother ceapts her health verie well and looks as well as I ever remember her. Lives verie comfortably with her three sons. The doctor is very convenient I may say fallen off verie fast. The Lord. seems to have no inclination for marrage tho mad a handsome fortune. I do not doubt but you have had the account from some of your brothers of the misfortune of your sister Lady Billies Sath her eldest son is still abroad att his travels who seemingly makes a good appearance. She has three sons and three daughters more verie well left by their father. As for your Sister Jean I think her varie unhappy—It is just as they think themselves he is a good preacher but a mighty mad wan. I go to see her sometimes but he never allows her to come & see me. When I made my first step Mr. Home did ever thing that he thought would be agreeable to my relations and Todd does ever thing that he thinks disagreeable. She has five fine children. I would give you a fuller account but as I can not think my son Ninian will leave the countray without enquiring for you he can inform you better than I can. I writ I did not doubt but the assistance of your advice might ben of yeous to him in his way. Direct for me Mrs. Home of Jardinfield att Porankston near Dunnebarre (Dunbar) which is a small purchase Mr. Home has mead in East Lothian—about 5 Pounds per for the convenience of Dwelling house. He is inclining not to build and Jardinfield would not lodge his family. Its about 10 miles from Duns so will expect to hear more particular from you. I have Ninians letter sometime in

Cornswick. My family heare is all well. You see not the best of them when you see my Ninian tho he is my favorit for his thorough good temper. My compliments to you and your family & I ever am

Your Most Aff't Sister

ISABELL HOME.

Rec'd this letter Feb. ye 23rd 1753.—G. H.

PORANKSTON Feb. ye 12th 1753.

Deat Brother

About five months agoe I had the pleasure of receiving yours from the hands of my son and was glad to hear the good accounts he gave of you all. Was verie hard on him why he had spent so little of his time by you. Could find no excuse but that his astay in the country was shorter than he expect it and his business would not allow him. His ship is out against July first how he is to be disposed of than is not yet determant. Am in the mind it will be thought proper for him once more to come to your countray which if he do you will know. His father will gave him a small start but he gave it out that the money can not so eslyly be made by trade as formerly. Traders being so increased in every countray. I wrote you some months agoe direct it to Ninian but he was left the countray before it could come to hand but supposing you may have got yours wherin I gave you a small account of the news of our countray. As to the melancolly account of Lady Billys death Ninian would tell you in what great good sircumstances she was left by her husband. She lived with her six children 3 sons & 3 daughters sometimes in the town & sometimes in the countray. She was in the countray August 51 (1751) her own man servant lodge himself below her bed till under night when he ent her days. She hearing spoke, upon which as the wretch took a knife and cut her throat. She lived about 3 days but spoke little. In the January after he was hanged between Leith and Edinbro & thar hung in chains. He had brought her a sum of money from her father a few days befor. Her eldest son was and still is a broad, she and hers lived in all fullness. It was but a

verie small share that my husband got tho he is the only child alive by the first marage, however we are verie happie and has as much with good management as may put our children in a way to gain their bread, and happiness do not consist in riches. I beg you will take evry oppertunity to let me hear how you are and what your young folks is doing & would be glad to know if I could serve you in any thing att such a distance, and I expect you will let me hear from you. Direct your letters to John Hunters care in Dunc (Duns) this Porankston my letter is direct from is to be my place of resedence. It is a small purchas Mr. Home has made in east Lothian—It is about ten miles from Duns. Before I end I must tell you my Mother ceapts her health very well. The Doctor for some time was in a verie bad way but has got his health a little better. The Captain holds out well this Winter. The Laird lives still a bacheller—Thats the way the Mother and the three sons. My daughter is the only young bodie in the family. Mr. Home sends his love to you and your family.

I am your Most Aff't Sister

ISABELL HOME.

WEDDERBURN, Dec. 5th 1759.

Dear Brother,

I had yours dated the 30th July 1759 which gave me great pleasure to hear from you. I wrote you in Marst last w'ch by this time may have come to hand but I, finding this oppertunity by a brother of Jas. Hunters will give you a small account of your few relations. My Mother looks & is as well as ever I remember her only she can not walk without the help of two staves which misfortune she mett with four years agoe by a fall. The Laird is still going about in his old way—pretty much bad for his years and the Doctor is a man just hanging together with ease & good ceaping—that is just the way—how hear with a daughter of mine attending them wan after the other. As to their worldly affairs no body knows anything about. our two dear brothers left considerable which is supposed to fall to the Doctor which was right & just to do as he

was always as a father to them and did for them when they went first abroad—how he desires to dispose of his none of us knows nor do we use the freedom to ask. The Doctor is a verie good man & does a great many charitable things to pour people but carries himself at such a disttance that no bodie dare ask any questions. I spoke to him wance to send a litle but came to no particulars. He has you verie much at heart. I think you should ask what you think convenient—he is a most tender hearted man as ever lived as for Sister Jean I wrot you a long time agoe she was marrat to a Minister living at Lady Kirk on Twitsed six miles from Wedderburn—my Mother knows. The Lord has never seen her. He was the man that tacht Mr. Home of Billys children. She has 3 sons & 2 daughters & lives but loan. Soe the Laird of Billy lives at the rate of a great fortune—He is rely uncind to his brothers & his 3 sisters which is verie fine young Ladays—He has 2 brothers in the army. I myself is as happy with my small fortune as they may be with their large ones and I am afraid you will be went with reding of this. when my daughters write you it will be better spelled. The reding & spelling being taught in a quat different way than in my time. I shall write you again soon & shall be glad to hear from you with oppertunity ther is now but few—

from Your Aff'ct Sister

ISABELL HOME.

EDROM 7 Aprll. 1751.

Dear Sir

I had the pleasure of yours long agoe, was disappointed by John Hunter who neglected to acquent us when he wrote his Broysr. You have this by my son Ninian who is come to Virginia for a season to keep his Masters store to whom I refer you for one account of all friends here. Am confident of your regards for your sister and family & shall make it my constant studdy to cultivat a friendship with my relations and especially with him who was so agreeable to my brother. Have got at last a small competency which with frugality and industry will enable me to educat and put my children to Imployment the ex-

pense of a family &—being double when you was here—It is needless for me to defer you to give Ninian your countenance and advise being confident you will use him as your own child—he is recommended to one Mr. Maitland a Merch't in York river—have nothing further to ad but that I am

Your aff't Broth'r

N. HOME.

P. S. Your friend Manderston is married to your old acquaintance Gavin Drummond's daughter—Her father is dead some years agoe.—Adiew.

EDROM 24th Febr. 1752.

Sir,

I have the pleasure of yours of ye 15th Sept. last. I wrote you in my last by son Ninian who is at Hastings in York river as did the Captn. Doctor and my wife but he has neither acknowledged his delivering the letters nor of his seeing you tho he had strict charges to do it. It is a great pleasure to hear from my friends—shall embrace every oppertunity of writing and hearing from them. Friends here are all well. make my compliments to my cousin and tell him his sister was married four years agoe to a Mr. Taylor who died about 3 years agoe and left her two daughters one of which is in the grades Hospital, the other is with her. She is verie industrious. Was supported by my Father who at his death ordered her fifteen pound Stirling & recommended her to his wife and son. Since Lady Billys death both has ordered to give her some small thing from time to time as she needs it. I suppose you have herd of the manner of Lady Billys death. It was thus. She had rec'd some cash before the 2nd of Aug. last—70 Pound Str. Her ffast man on that night concealed him self in her bedchamber when she had gone to take a walk as she usually did before bedtime when at Lent hill. When she had fallen a sleep he attacted her & cut her throat with a case kniffe—upon receiving the—scaf—at once started up & got hold of his hair and struggled considerably—our lady did alarm the servants—upon their coming up he made his scape at the window—was

taken next day and upon the 5th of March, was executed at Edin'r—the 10th of Jan last—having his right hand first cut off and nailed to the top of the gallows—then hanged—& hung in chains—betwixt Leith & Edin'r. When you write again please direct for me at Branxton to the care of the Post Master of Dunbar, East Lothian. I am

Your Most ob't Humble Servt.

N. HOME.

My wife joins with me in our compliments to you & all friends. I wrote likewise to J. Hunter by son but does not know if he rec'd it.—Adieu.

BRAXNTON Janry. 30th 1759.

Dear Sir,

I have the pleasure of both your letters—one of Augt. 1757. I read a year after ye date. Am sorry to tell you that James was killed in Spring last engaging a French letter of Marque Ship in the bay of Biscay. it was hard to be killed in his first cruize and just when life became tolerable to him. I am sure he dearly earned what he got and think he merited a better fate but that now a days is too little minded—poor man he is gone & I hope is happy. Your brother the Capt'n who had been long afflicted with the gout died 30th of Aug last. Can not inform you how they settled their affairs as none of your brothers spoke to me of it. Lady Wedderburn looks as well as she has some twentee years past—walks upon crutches, occasioned by a fall she got about three years agoe. The Laird has been dangerously ill of a fever—is now seemingly well, but recovers his strength slowly—the Doctor is but tender keeps his health pretty well by care and regular living. This is a melancholy subject—must give you concern which I sincerely sympathize with you in. I delivered my cousins letter to his sister which she has answered. My family I hope are all well, but dispersed. Ninian has been settled in St. Christophers these three years past. George is following out his business as a writer, have got him appointed commisar of Lander tho of small profit may be a means to bring him into business. My

oldest daughter has been with her Grandmother this four years past—Have ye young boy Frank and two daughters at home—I regret your situation in time of war but hope you are now safe & if the next campaign be as successful as the last I hope the French will be driven out of America—at least will be confined within very narrow limits. All your friends at Edinbr. well. My two youngest brothers David & Tom have been very luckee—the first have been but about three or four years in the army and has now a Troop in the Scots Grays now in Germany. The other is a Leftenant in the Scots fusilers at Gibraltar. The Doctor rec'd yours of Aug. 1757 and I hear honoured your Draught. You are no higher taxed than we are in this country than we are. Fourteen millions here to be raised for the service of the current year. My wife would have wrote by this oppertunity but delayed it until a-nother. Shall always be glad to hear of your and famillys well being.

I am Your Most ob't Serv't.

N. HOME.

LONDON 18th Sep. 1736.

D'r B'r.

Not having heard anything of you so many years till John came home last year. I intended then to have writ to you but going out again to Constantinople and not knowing when we might return I defered it. We were paid off about ten days agoe. As there is but little prospect of any business for some time in my way intends to go to Scotland for the Winter not having seen my Moth'r these twelve years as it is probable I may not go abroad all next year. Should be glad to hear from you. When at Cap. Fear about four years ago I writ to you and once afterwards from Carolina but never herd from you. May write safely directed to the Golden Boot in dukes Court, St. Martins Lane, London & it will find me where ever I am. Could write more largely, but will not till I hear from you. Am determined to write to you every 3 months for at least 3 or 4 times if I hear not from you and am

Your Aff'ct B'r.

PAT HUME.

Dear B'r.

Rec'd yours of the 17th May 1737 and likewise that of the 7th June which was directed to Mr. Humes in Dukes Court who sent them to me being then at Carolina second time from w'ch place I writ you several times but has not herd from you since. We came to England again last winter. Ld. Delorain who was my Capt'n dying soon after. Am at —— in the Suffolk where I met with the oppertunity of this ship now in Tor bay there being about 25 sail of us lying ready for a wind to go down channel Commanded by Sir John Norris—we believe to look for the Spanish or French fleet in the bay of Biscay. Jno is still in the west Indies the Roebuck being expected home every day. All in Scotland are in the same way as when I last writ. We do not expect to be long out & if a peace is made soon it is possible I may not go abroad again—intending to pay our old Moth'r as long a visit as I have been now absent if it please God we both live so long—intending to write you frequently & shall be still in some hopes of a further correspondence.

Your Aff'ct B'r.

PAT HUME.

Ship Suffolk in Tor bay 31st July 1740. Direct for me to be left at Mr. Samuel Barlows Apry. in Bucklere burry London.

WEDDERBURN, 22nd March 1747.

B'r.

Rec'd yours of May 1745 some time ago and likewise of 8th Fbr. 1746 by Jas. Hunter. I saw your son at Portsmouth last winter w'th James where I was surgeon of the Sandwich under Jno's command for about three weeks. I only took her with an intention to quit again as I thought myself not fit to go to sea since last west India voyage which was in 1741—been for the most part in this country since I got superannate. When I left the Sandwich and given over all thoughts of Business having still a lameness in my hands I thank God otherwise in a very good health as I often wisht for a quiet country life when I was obliged to bustle about the world I think have now fallen into it but idleness I do abhor. Have therefore turned planter

by taking a little farm of our Brother where I plant, soe and build Dikes which affords me constant employment—what little I got together have laid out on two small farms in the neighborhood which pays my rent and the overplus is mostly laid out in improving my farm—Our Moth'r is in tolerable health for one in her years. Jno has been in the Sandwich about a year and a half—a guard ship but soon to be paid off as he so lame in his leggs w'th the Gout & therefore not fitt for a cruizing ship. I believe he will come to Scotland unless he get anoth'r Guard Ship. Jas. went to the Meddittaranean some months agoe—all your friends here are well & am

Your Most Aff'ct B'r.

PAT HUME.

Direct for me at Wedderburn near Berwick upon Tweed. 6 miles from there 1¼ miles from Duns.—H. H. P.

WEDDERBURN 28th Mar. 1751.

D'r. B'r.

I writ to you in June last year by Jas. Hunters B'r. which I hope you rec'd since that, we are much as we were here. The Capt is very infirm of the Gout—in both hands and feet. The Lord & I have both had it this winter. This comes by a son of Jardinfields who was Mr. Ninians eldest son by his first wife and marryd our sister Isabell. As to anything else he can give you an act. of us hear & am

Yours Aff'ct B'r.

PAT HUME.

WEDDERBURN 12th Dec. 1758.

D'r. B'r.

Rec'd yours of the 16th of June with bill and have paid it according to James Hunters directions—am perfectly content you should do the same yearly at least whilst things continues in such a precarious situation in your neighborhood. This last Summer we have met with the loss of two of our Brothers. John died here in Aug. James was killed comd'r of the Pluto fire ship the first cruize he went out after he got the command, by a French man of war in April last so that you see I am the

only one left of four of us that went to sea. As to myself I am not in a good state of health but I think better this last year than for some years past. I hope to be able to answer the demand as above whilst I live and you have occasion for it. What may happen after that God only knows. The Laird has had a very severe fitt of illness at Edinb'g. I was in with him about a month—is perfectly recovered but not yet got to the countray. Our Moth'r is in very good health but from a paroletick fitt she had some years agoe can not walk without crutches. All are tolerable well & am

Your Most Affec't B'r.

PAT HUME.

This was written without the knowledge that George, his brother, was dead, having died in 1760:

WEDDERBURN 28th April 1761.

Dear Bro'r.

Rec'd yours of the 2nd of April 1760 have paid the bill of twenty pounds to John Hunter, Br. to James—were likewise given John Hunter a bill for 100 Pounds to be paid you in shares by his brother Jas. which bill I shall pay as soon as they produce me a receipt under your hand that you have received the value—I hope you will put it to the best use you can. I have been worse than usual for some weeks past—not being able to ride on horse back as usual but I still go out in the chaise. Have settled matters so that whatever comes of me the 100 Pounds will be paid you—Your Moth'r and all hear are tolerably well & am

Your affec't B'r.

PAT HUME.

The following are copies of letters written by George Hume of Virginia to his brothers and sisters in Scotland:

[To NINIAN HOME.]

RAPPAHANNOCK RIVER,

June 20th 1723

Sir:—

We had no sooner landed in this country but I was taken immediately w'th all ye most common distampers y't attend it

but y't most violent of all was a severe flux of w'ch my uncle died being the governour's factor at a place called Germawna in the upper parts of ye Colony whom he berried there and put pails about his berrial place w'ch is not very common in ys. country. I went and saw it as soon as I was able to ride. Yt distemper brought me so low in a very short time yt I was scarcely able to walk however I was oblidge to tend ye store for all my being so ill till we had done purchasing tobacco for ye ships loading w'ch took me about six weeks when I was so much out of order yt I was oblidge to go to Williamsburg by water where I met w'th Dr. Brown who I suppose gave you an account last year of my condition. He declared to myself after he had almost cured me of the flux yt he did not expect I should have lived. I waited on ye governour ye day after I went to town & delivered ym Spotsewoods letter. He was seemingly very kind to me and talked to me very friendly but he told me it was out of his power to do anything for me he being put out of his place and he had so many w'th ym that he was oblidge to put away some of ym whom he could best spare --then qt to do I could not tell however I advised w'th Dr. Brown who was of ye opinion I should return home as soon as I could.

What little money I had I was oblidge to spend it at Wms Burg the time I was their sick w'ch was about five weeks indeed ye Dr. took nothing for my druggs. All that comes to this country have ordinarily sickness at first w'ch they call a seasoning of w'ch I shall assure you I had a most severe one when I went to town.

I got but very little for my store keeping for all yt went to paying passage for whenever my cosen John Watson at Port Glasgow told the merchants there yt you had written to him was the occasion of my going away so hastily they would not allow me to go but to come home again and they sent to Whit-haven (because we were driven in there by stress of wather) to desire our Captain to send me home but he proved so much my friend when he saw me so fond of going (for he was always very kind to me) that he got me into another ship and I was to keep ye store for my passage of w'ch I was very glad and ac-

cepted of it so yt you may know by yt. I could be but very poor in purse & I did not know qt hand to turne myself to for I could get no bussiness for unlesse one have very good recommendation there is no sort of bussinesse to be got in ys Indian country. Wherefore I could have traveled farer when I was informed I would have been better if I could have got any money but ys is ye worst place for yt I could have pitched for there is so little in ye country yt I believe a great many of ym does not know it if they saw it only. They make a parcell of tobacco w'ch they make to buy themselves cloathes and makes it to go from one to another instead of money and that is all they seek after here so yt if nothing fall out better for me next year if it be possible for me to get a little money and cloathes together I design for farrer abroad either to Jamaica or the West Indies whichever of them I can get ye best accounts of I thought to have gone to New York little after I came here when I found so little incouragement here w'ch is not far from ys place but I could never be worth so much as to carry me it being very dear traveling yt way I hear my brother Patrick is there Surgeon of ye Gray hound Man of War lying on yt station.

Mr. Petter Chambers has been very kind to me in ys place in assisting me w'th severall necessaries which I could not want and which it had been very hard for me to get unless he had assisted me such as shoes and stokins for ever since I came into ye country I have never gained anything for myselfe unless it be sometimes a small parcell of tobacco w'ch I get for writting. Everything of cloathing is most unreasonably dear it being three times as dear as in Scotland so yt yt is ye greats strait I am all.

I have not had my health very well in ys country as yet but however I have it much better than I had it last year only I am now and then troubled w'th ye fever & ague w'ch is a very violent distemper here. This place is only good for doctors and ministers who have very good encouragem't here. I must own I think it the hight of impudence for me to write to you w'ch was the occasion of my not writting last year but having in crotched so far on your good nature formerly and still have found you my very well wisher I hope you will excoose me for tho at time I did not adhere to you very good advice yet now

I see my folly and I wish to God I had given more ear to you and less to some others. It had been better for me and many a time now it makes me melancholy to think of my follies and despising my best of friends advice while you have always been wherefore dear sr. let this be my excuse I designed to have written to my mother but after I had bethought with my self how much I had disoblidged and how far I had been out of the way to her who I may now say (if I had considered it right at that time) was the best of mothers to me for which I pray God and she may both forgive me which as long as I am on this side of time I am oblidged to pray for and it makes me that I shall never forget the verse which I remember I learned long agoe which was

"O mihi praeteritos referat si Jupitis Annos."

Neither can I have the impudence to send my duty to her unless you will be pleased to give it and to interceed for me but you have interceded there for me so oftne that I can scarce desire it now and if I were to serve you on my knees while I lived it would scarce be a recompense forr such favours which I have received from you. I have yet another favour to ask of you which is that you will be pleased to let me hear from you how you and all friends are.

I stay in the upper part of Essex County on Rappahannock River. If you please to write let it be directed to Mr. Chambers care who will forward it to me. He lives on the same river but further down. I desire you will be pleased to give my duty to all your family to my grandmother, my aunt to Mrs. Home and all my brothers.

And I am and allways shall think myselfe D'r Sir You most humbled and Oblidged Servant to—

G. HOME.

Virginia, June 20, 1723.

To Mr. Ninian Home of Billie att his Lodging forgainst the Magdalene Chaple in the Cougate, Edinburgh.

[To JAMES HOME.]

Dear Jammie: I would have written to you last year but I always delay'd till I saw if I could get any business w'ch made

me delay it so long till all ye shipping were gone & besides yt having so very highly disoblidged your father who I find now to have been my best of friends I could not write to any unless to him w'ch I could not have the confidence to do tho I have taken it upon me ys year for I cannot let myself thinke but he is still my very well wisher & if I had taken more of his advice then I did it had been more to my advantage then I can mention I find that there is nothing to be got here without very good recommendation. Tho mine was good yet it did me no manner of service because just as I came into ye country ye Go: lost his place and another came in not long after but I thank God I made a shift to live and that is all. I cannot get a pint of good to pany here to drink you healths for all we drink here is water & sometimes rum but yt is very dear and very little money to buy it. Cloathes and linin are very dear in ye Indian Country yea I truly think them three times as dear as at home tobacco is all ye commodity here I have had but very ordinary health in ys country as yet especially last summer and fall but I begin to take a little better with ye place which I suppose you will hear from your father for I have given a full account of it. I believe indeed I should have died if Dr. Brown had not stood my friend at Williamsburgh from which place I am now at a great distance above one hundred miles. I hope I shall hear from you with the first shipping and direct for me to ye care of Mr. Peter Chambers on Rappahannock River Virginia. I desire you will give my service to my friend Henry Scrimsiour and Dickson Mrs. Helen & Mary Rentons and all other friends and I am Dr. Jamie

Your Most humble and obliged Servant

G. HOME.

I desire you may not forget to give my service to Mr. George Home and tell him I shall be very glad to hear from him. To Mr. James Home son of Mr. Ninian Home of Billy ate Edinburgh.

Dear Brother David,

I have wrote to you so often without ever receiving an answer y't I am almost hopeless of writing to you any more.

Whether it is you do not receive my letters or will not write or have any correspondence with me I can not tell however, have this safe opportunity by James Hunter I take it to let you know I am still alive and well and hope to hear from you when you receive this—how you are and all ye rest of my Brothers y't. You may happen to see as also My Mother and sisters. You may be sure it will be very great joy and satisfaction for me to hear how you all are at so long absence. You can not but know where to find me. if you direct for me in Orange County to the care of Mr. William Hunter merchant, Fredericksburg Rap'n River Virginia, I shall be sure to receive them. I shall add no more at present till I hear from you w'ch I earnestly beg I may do with ye first opportunity & not only once but shall beg you will give yourself ye trouble of letting me hear from you often, and pray give my duty to my Mother with my love to my sisters and their husbands not forgetting to remember me to my old fellow traveller and brother sufferer Alex'dr Home of Manderstone and should be heartily glad to hear from him.

F'b'r ye 7th 1736.

F'b'r ye 11th 1748.

Broth'r James.

I wrote to you ye 15th of A'pr—but never had any return from you since the letter you wrote me from Hampton road Janr. ye 19th 1744 (or 45 can't read) after you were removed and having now this time & as I think opportunity by James Hunter son to James Hume in Duns I take it to write you hoping you will receive it because I dare say if you are in London or in Scotland he will see you if possible. I have likewise wrote by him to Brothers David Patt & Jno. whom I hope will all hear from. you may believe it would be one of comfort & satisfaction that possibly could ——— with you all at such a distance & pray let me hear how my sone does and how he behaves& if he likes London or Fredericksburg best. I have had a very hard spell of sickness for several months by reason of a grievous cold I caught at our last winter but I thank God & now bravely recovered and intend to give over taking long

tedious journeys of where we are obliged to go perhaps several months without seeing a house, and living altogether on wilde meat and to content myself with what little business I can get about home or at least in ye Inhabited places. I still am surveyor of orange County—it is of little benefit now for ye Ld. Fairfax has almost got all our back lands from Ye King y't we y't are Kings—has now but very little business for his Lordships agents here——. w'th whome I have no acquaintance. I did not much expect being so much troublesome to you. would lend me the wach and saddle you promised but now I hope we shall have better news & if you can meet w'th James Hunter you can not get a safer hand. I beg you will not fail to let me hear from you & as often as you can & may.

G. HUME.

Dear Sister Isabell,

I had the favour of a letter from you by James Hunter dated ye 22nd of March 1747—I sent you an answer but has had not received none from you since—You can not but have opportunities enough and should be glad to hear from you how you are as also all enqr. friends—am glad to hear you are so well settled at home & w'ch I hope will be your satisfaction & I imagine by this time our Broth'r Jno is also settled at home and also glad to hear our Mother is so well who I am certain must be old & infirm by ys time. The County I live in was divided last assembly & ye part I live in is called Culpeper County ye other of Orange still. Wherefore direct for me living in ye fork of Rappahannock River Culpepper County Virginia. I am very well and in good health however I find myself fail and not able to walk the mountains as I have done—I have had so much cold and endured so much hardship over our mountains it will make old whether I will or not. pray remember me to all friends as enquire after me.

I am ———

April ye 8th 1748.

Broth'r Pat,

Rec'd yours from Wedderburn dated 22nd Mar. 1747—am glad to hear all is so well, and especially our Moth'r who must

now by old age be very in-firm—I had a letter from James on board the Gilberg or (Tilberg) at sea dated ye 13th of August last he does not tell me where he is but can not be very far off his letter had such a quick passage—it was not wrote two months till I got it. he was then well. Your lameness in your hands continues to hinder you from your business but glad you are so well settled & so content. I have nothing to write to you. Our Gov'n'r gives no ——— by receiving wares & goods so very dear it is almost impossible to buy. I got such a cold at ye mountains that I expected it would have killed me—I have been there two years past. I could never go out to work but I thanked God. I hope am now perfectly recovered and I think as well as ever and able now again to walk ye mountains. I hope you will not fail to let me hear from you often—as you may on the oppertunity from Jas. Hunter to send to their Broth'r. Wm. who lives in Fredericksburg town within 20 miles.

Your aft. Broth'r.

G. HUME.

Dear Broth'r Jno.

I have wrote to you several times since you left this nation but you promised to let me hear from you often. I never have had ye pleasure of one letter from you. the last time I wrote to you was in April 1745 & now having this good oppertunity by James Hunter son to Jas. Hunter in Duns I send you this by him w'th hope will go safe if he gets safe home. I am sure he will care to deliver it according to ye directions which I hope you will get & pray let me beg to hear from you & where I shall direct to you. You may assure your self it would be a very great satisfaction and pleasure for me to hear from you often how you are & in what place. Direct for me either by ye old direction as you had when was in the country or to the care of Wm. Hunter March't in Fredericksburg Rappahannock River Virginia—the plantation I lived at when you was here was both too low and too publick a place for my business wherefore I sold it & bought another where I live at now about 18 miles higher in orange Co. of which County I am still Surveyor of

but very little business & to go to the mountains or over them I can not agree to y't. I think not to go any higher though it is now but a poor county. I must be content pray do not fail to let me hear from you.

G. HUME.

Sir,

I was favoured with a letter from your spouse by James Hunter dated in March 1747 and should take it as a very great favor if you would be so good as to let me hear from you—how all affairs are in our native country, in which there are great changes since I was here. in ye year 1721 I left the country since which time have had very little correspondence. I hope ye friendship as was between your brother James & I besides ye relations may also create a correspondence between us which I assure you will not only be a pleasure but a very great satisfaction to me at such a distance. I am heartily glad to hear that all are well with you hoping it will continue. You may always have an opportunity to send me from John Hunter in Duns & Broy'r James seeing often. Pray remember my love to my sister, your spouse also to my sisters Peggy & Jenny and my young nephews and neices though unknown with me. My service to all enq'r friends who enquire after me especially Alex'r Home of Manderstone.

I am Your ———

G. HUME.

To Alex'r Home of Jardinfield Dated Aug. 9th 1749.

Dear Brother,

I understand by Willie Hunter you wrote by him last year to me but he not knowing who I was and ye letter being directed to me living on Rap'n Gave it to ye ——— who carried it around to ——— y't after all ye inquiry I could not make out nor hear of it though should have been heartily glad to have heard from you. May you let me hear from you by ye first opportunity & pray let me know how all was at home, and if our old Mother is alive and how all affairs stand which would be of a very great satisfaction to me at such a distance. I have

no news to write to you only I am hoping this will find you & all my Broth'rs & sisters in ye same condition, very well. Still travelling about in ye back woods over our great country and it increases so fast I still find some business. Ye Kings business were over very Slack most of ye lands as belongs to ye Crown being surveyed but have got into ye Lord Fairfax business—being proprietors of ye N. Neck of Virginia and being now in ye country himself which I hope will hold by. You will let me hear from you by ye first opportunity & send your letters for me to Mr. Jno. Hunter in Duns—directed to the care of Mr. Wm. and James Hunters' merchants in Fredericksburg Rap'n River Virg'a & I shall be sure of them. I shall add no more at present only—hoping you will let me hear from you soon as possible and remember my duty to my Mother if alive—with love to all my brothers & sisters & I remain

Your Loving B'r

G. H.

F'b'r ye 15th 1751.

To Doctor Jno. Hunter (Hume) at Wedderburn near Berwick on Tweed.

Dear Sister,

I have never received but one letter from you & y't was by James Hunter dated Mar. 25th 1747 since w'ch time I wrote both you and your husband about Aug. 1749 and once since but no answer though you may believe it would a very great pleasure besides satisfaction for me to hear from you as also ye rest of my brothers and sisters though I sometimes hear from some of my Brth'rs. but seldom. Am surprised that you according to your promise do not write to me oftener. You can never want an opportunity by Jno. Hunter in Duns when he writes to his uncle Wm. & Broth'r Jas. w'ch is often. I would have them direct for me living in Culpepper Co. Rap'n R. Virg'a. to ye care of Wm. or Jas. Hunter Merchants in Fredericksburg Rap'n River Virg'a and I shall be sure to get them for they are all my ———. I have heard of a great many deaths in our family both from my Broth'r Jno. and James and some word from you who is always on ye spot would not be amiss & give

me very great satisfaction & as perhaps one sheet of paper would not hold it all might give me some in one & some in another for you may every now & then have oppertunitys by Jno Hunter in Duns. I should rely your husband would not spare writing to me to give you an act. of all ye transactions of my life and hardships I have endured since I left Scotland. is not a quire of paper would not hold it but I must tell you we are all well hoping this will find you & family in the same condition. I have business & our country America is so fast settling y't we have now got to the branches of Misossippy w'ch is 3 or 4 hundred miles from where I have been living—but too far for me growing now old to go, but though ye land as ye King holds in ye country is almost all surveyed and my business it may fail. I have got in ye Ld. Proprietor of ye North'n N. in Virg'a. I do not go above 100 miles from home to work & as my eyes within ye 2 or 3 yrs. has failed me very much I thank God I have now got a son who does my business for me and when he leaves me I hope I have another ready. I have 6 sons. There can be no greater satisfaction to me in ye world y'n to hear from you all & especially to hear that Ninians deeth has rid my dear sister out of all her trouble—I shall say no more at present only I remain

Your Loving B'r

G. H.

Feb. ye 15th 1751.

To Mrs. Isabell Home Lady Jardinfield.

I had the happiness of receiving a letter from your spouse my sister from James Hunter dated the year 1747 Since w'ch time I have wrote both to you and her but has never received any answer. I should take it as a particular favour besides the great pleasure & satisfaction I should have to hear from you every year or at least as often as you can conveniently being at such a distance—to hear how all friends are & how affairs goes at home especially w'th all my Brothers & sisters. When your brother James died I may say I lost my good friend and best correspondent however I hope you will be the same and you may always send to me by way of Mr. Jno. Hunter at

Duns directing to me in Culpepper Co. Rap'n River Virg'a to ye care of Mr. William or James Hunter merchants in Freder'b'g. Rap'n River Va. You have a cousin Alex'r Home, son to James Home your Uncle who was Dixon (Dean?) of the Taylors in Edinbrugh who lives about 3 miles of my house who desires me to remember him to you & would be glad to hear how you all did especially what has become of his sister if alive or dead or what condition are all. hoping this will find you & your spouse in the same condition—I wrote to you last in Aug. 1749 but never had any ans. I likewise write now to your spouse hoping to hear from you both as soon as possible—I may remember my love to your sister your spouse & my sister Peggy & Jenny not forgetting my service to Alex'r Home of Manderstone. I shall add no more at present—only beg you will let me hear from you as often as you can conveniently which will be a very great pleasure to me.

G. HUME.

F'b'r ye 15th 1751.

To Mr. Alex'r Home of Jardinfield.

Feb. ye 23rd 1753.

Dear Sister,

I received yours from Edrom dated June 16th 1752—am glad to hear you & family are all well. I wrote to you a short time afterwards but am sensible it did not come to hand because the messenger I sent it by I hear is now in Carolina & do not imagine went home & heartily glad to hear our relations are well more especially y't our Mother keeps her health so well and by what I hear from you she holds out better than her sons for I find the Capt'n is very crazy also ye Doctor & for my part I have held it out amongst our mountains beyond expectations and has in my time been one of the last as ever went into my business lying in far of our own mountains & I am being so dim sighted I can not see ye back woods but soon it is over. I begin to be almost ashamed so since my Mother keeps in so good health but to be very crazy by ye hardships I have endured in lying out in our back woods but now I must give out tho very much ag'st my will. Am sorry to hear our sister Jean is so

unhappily matched tho if she is contented in ye world depending entirely on contentment. Contentment with a small living must certainly be better than great riches with discontent. I likewise rec'd a letter from Branxton dated Feb'r 12th 1753. I think dear Sister, Ninian gives you a true state of trade in this country. I must tell you how it is. I do not know, but our factory as come in ——— ways is more than I am acquainted with but by that time they can have 2 or 3 years—they get estates to themselves some of their owners that will. They take care of themselves & it is impossible They & ye owners at home both can get estates & to mention so many fine fellows here all bedaubed with gold & silver lace fine times money flying & in 2 or 3 years fine estates in land & negroes surely that must come out of ye owners pockets & it is impossible them & ye owners both can thrive so fast that trade must sink & indeed they are innumerable. The goods always were most extravagantly dear but now therefore got ye parties so much in debt to ye merchants then they might be able to pay this money in years if ever y't. Now they have what they please for their goods & will give almost nothing for Tob'r. for they are sure of it being owing to them & if a man offers to you buy them where they are perhaps to get a little price, yn the poor mans estate is sold to pay ye Merch't both land & negroes & y't is ye end of y't poor planter & ye Merchant gets his estate for a small matter, but I do not imagine ye owners at home are ye better of it though it comes out of their pockets & I imagine it is what makes ye ——— at home (as we hear) break. This is a true state of ye trade in our country at ys time & really they will. Goods are become so dear ye country being so much in debt to ye merch't yt we shall scarcely be able to get ourselves shirts & oy'r necessities. I must tell you a piece of news w'ch no doubt you have heard of—perhaps not ye circumstances. We live in a very large country ye extent I believe as yet not known being settled several hundred miles back since I came to it in 1721. We have now got on ye branches of Misissippy river so nigh ye French yt they do not like our coming so nigh to y'm—I do not hear they do any mischief to our back settlers only build forts very nigh to us to stop us—till we took up arms against

ym to defend our King's rights & to guard our back settlers on Ohio river a branch of Misossippy besides that river which lies all to ye west ward of us. We had a fort built there by a company of gent'n who has taken up great quantities of land on ohio but as soon as done ye French made bold to possess it without blood shed—There was a great noise in ye country ye French were coming upon us several young men listed themselves & then beat up for volunteers to fight ye French and I believe got about 400 in Virg'a who went out. Ye French raised men also & some time about ye end of May last a party of our soldiers met with a party of ye French. I am in formed by French Prisoners w'ch I saw there were 35 of ym & 32 of our men besides some of our indians. They had a skirmish & understand our men killed 7 of ye French—one got away & ye rest sent down to Williamsburg prisoners & only lost one man—we built a fort on ye same river ohio as ye French at some distance where our men lay & I hear intended to ly by for more recruits being so far in ferior to ye French. We had I believe 200—come from New York—200 & 2 or 3 hundred from Carolina which were to go under ye command of Col. Ennis a scotsman who was to be chief commander who came from Carolina but before they got up to ye fort ye French lit on our men & has quite beat y'm with a very great slaughter on both sides. our men behaved nobly but so far in ferior in number ye French being as was supposed about 900 & we only between 3 & 400 y't we were obliged to quit ye field make peace for one year and none of us to go over ye alligany mountains w'ch they say is ye King of Frances' land for in ye time what y't will turn out I can not tell. The head officers are gone to consult w'th ye Governor, but what is to be done or if we are to keep ye peace or go on again w'th recruits is not yet known though in a few days I am in hopes we shall know. I have this day wrote to your husband & shall again in a little time as soon as I hear more news. My family are all well & remember their love to you & yours hoping you are ye like—w'ch is all at present from

Your Loving Brother

G. HUME.

July 20th 1754 Culpepper Co. Va.

To Mrs. Isabell Home at Branxton near Dunbar in East Lothian.

Dear Broth'r.

I take ye oppertunity to let you know we are all well only I am grown so crazy [weak] no more fit to go in the back woods. Our country is so far back settled that we are obliged to go above 100 miles before I can come to work. I am so broke by ye hardships I have indured in lying in ye backwoods that we are obliged to go also have lost my sight so far that without spectacles scarce discern ye degrees of my compass y't it kills me to travel so far and over such mountains as you know we have & of late have been very much afflicted by old colds and lying out so much w'ch now begins to come upon me. When James was in ye country I was always telling him I used to go to ye Branches of Misossippy to survey land there & he used to laugh at me thinking it impossible as I believe however it has now proved true for we have at least met w'th ye French a parcel of Gentlemen who have got a grant from ye King for a great deal of land in this a branch of Misossippy—last spring built a fort on this river. Ye French let y'm alone till finished then come & took possession without bloodshed but before that I do understand any damage to our back settlers only built forts I suppose to stop us from coming any nearer we thinking the land belong to us and they think it belong to y'm. And there was a great noise went about the French were coming upon us—Several young men enlisted themselves beat up for volunteers and I believe got about or near 400 in Virg'a who went out against ye French & at the same time raised an army also and some time since about ye end of May last a party of our soldiers met with a party of the French. I am informed by ye French prisoners who I saw, there were 35 of y'm and 32 of our men besides some of our indians had a skirmish & I understand our men killed 9 of ye French—one got way and ye rest they took prisoners and sent down to Williamsburg & we only lost one man. Our men built a fort on ye same river Ohio as the French & some distance from theirs wherein our men lay & I imagine intended to ly by for some more recruits being far

inferior in number to ye French. we had I believe some come from New York & 2 or 3 hundred from Carolina who were to go under the command of one Coll. Ernes [Innes] a scotsman from Carolina who was to be chief commander but before they got out to our army ye French lit on ours & has quite beat ym with a great slaughter on both sides. our men behaved very well but being so far inferior in number to ye French they being ——— to be good ——— and but between 3 & 400 men were obliged to yield, quit ye field make peace for one year & none of us to go over ye Alligany mountains which they say belongs to ye King of France. Since what will be ye event I know not yet that I am obliged to give out going so far & content myself with a little business about home unless I were to move 2 or 3 hundred miles further back it would not be worth my while to move & y't is what I can not think of doing if I can make any other shift. I have taken your advice about my sons. I have two now of age. Geo. and Francis. Geo. follows my business however he is very careful & industrious but unless he goes 3 or 400 miles back it will not be worth his while, tho he works now for me & am in hopes he will do well. Francis is the planter & I am in hopes he will do well. As for John I am in hopes he may do well enough, but I could never persuade him to go in a merchant ship though he never will & the Capt'n as brought him in offered him his mates place if he would go home again w'th him but he would not go & still wants to be in a Kings Ship. I have 3 younger sons who I intend God willing to bind to good trades y't they may know how to get their living—no daughters, am glad to hear our Moth'r holds it so well pray give my duty to her with my respects to ye Doctor & Laird I am

Your Most Affectionate Brother,

G. HUME.

Culpepper Co. Virg'a Aug. 22nd 1754.

To Capt'n Jno Hume at Wedderburn Politeness to the care of Mr. John Hunter Merchant in Duns.

P. S. Should be glad to hear from James or in what place or nation he is in.

Our assembly are soon sitting I believe chiefly on y't occurrence. if we shall soon hear. I have no ay't news to tell you—money is so scarce it is a rare thing to see a dollar and at publick places where great monied men must be on Cock fighters, horse races &c ye noise is not now as it use to be—one pistol to 2 or 3 pistoles to one—it is now common cry 2 cows & calves to one or 3 to one or sometimes 4 hogshead tob'r. to one & y't gives no price, so I do not know how we shall maintain a war ye French having very much ye advantage of us.

G. H.

Sir—

I take ye oppertunity of letting you know we are all well in y's country but very much oppressed w'th ye wars as we have had—here some years. I do not doubt you have heard of the bad success we had last year when Gen'rl Braddock commanded. we lost as I am informed by waggoners there present about 12 or 13 hundred men and I do not understand they can give any act. of any damage as our men did for. the indians did not themselves only lay in ambush as the wolves for our army as they were passing and I do not understand there were above 500 of ym & they did not show themselves. The indians has done a great deal of damage—has cut off a great many people and still continues. They have murdered & slayed several hundred besides carried away a great many prisoners—they murder a great many of us & we get but few of them & am very much afraid without some speedy help they will do a great deal more mischief for almost every day we hear of some one or other being murdered by ym. they have now got above 100 miles down among our back inhabitants and still comes lower and lower. I am heartily glad my Mother holds out so well & by what I can find out better than her sons for by what I understand ye Doctor & ye Capt'n have failed for many years—yet I find ye contrary as for the Laird & I think nothing of him for I do not suppose he ever has indured ye hardships both night & day as any of us has. I want to hear very much where James is. I have not herd from him this great while or if he has got a ship or not. My family & I am in good health. &

remember our love to you all. Pray remember me to my cousins, Peggy's children & all enq'r friends which is all at present from

Your Most obedient Servant,

G. HUME.

June ye 20th 1754.

To Alex'r Home of Jardinfield Esqr. at Braxton in East Lothian to ye care of ye Post Master at Dunbar.

I rec'd yours dated from Edrom ye 24 Fbr. 175—[torn off] & wrote to you some time after as also my sister by a young man y't was going home but I hear since he has come back from Carolina w'th our soldiers so I am afraid he has never been home or sent ye letters. I showed your cousins Sanders [Alexander] what you had wrote me about his sister w'ch was very great satisfaction to him. he & his family are well & lives within a few miles of me so I have ye happiness of seeing him very often. we are all well here—I have no news only we have got wars amongst us w'th ye French. our country increases so much & so fast by reason of so many dutch & so many irish [Germans and Scotch-Irish] coming in every year that since I came in ye year 1721 we have gone back to ye west ward several hundred miles & now got on ye branches of Misosippy River where I understand ye French are settled & I imagine they do not like our coming so nigh them tho I do not hear of any damage they do our back settlers only build forts to stop us, we suppose & think it belongs to us & they to them & seems to be very intent. Early last Spring a Company has a got a grant for a great deal of land on ohio a branch of Misossippy River, built a fort on ye ohio—a distance from ye French w'ch as I understand when finished ye French took possession of without blood shed—then there was a great noise about ye French were coming upon us—several young men listed themselves up for volunteers & likewise got about or near 400 men in Va who went out. Ye French at ye same time raised an army also & some time after about ye end of May last a party of our soldiers met w'th a party of the French. I am informed by ye French prisoners what I saw there was

about 35 of ym & 32 of our men besides some of our indians—they had a skirmish. I understand our men killed 7 of ye French one got away & ye rest taken to Williamsburg & we only lost one man. Our men built a fort on ye same river ohio as ye French at some distance from theirs wherein our men lay & I imagine intended to ly for more recruits being far inferior in numbers to ye French. we had I believe 200 from New York 2 or 3 hundred from Carolina who were to go under the command of Col. Ernes a scotsman from Carolina & to be ye chief commander but before they got out to join our army ye French sott on ours & has quite beat y'm. with a very great slaughter on both sides. Our men behaved nobly but being so far in ferior in numbers to ye French they being supposed to be 900 & ours but between 3 & 400 were obliged to yield, quit ye field—not go over ye Alligany mountains w'ch they say is the King of Frances' land in y't time what will be the end I can not tell though our head officers are gone to ye Govenor to consult him & I suppose will tell what is to be done or if it is to keep ye peace or go on again with more recruits is not yet known but will in a few days—I hope we shall know. I understand it is a very large fine country if we can keep it w'ch I am in hopes we are able to do. We are settled so far back & my business lies at such a distance I begin to grow very crazy being very much exposed by lying out so much in ye nights & induring so much hardships both from hunger & cold y't I am obliged to give out & take up with a small business about home not being able to endure ye hardships any longer besides my eyes begin to fail me y't I cannot well see ye degrees of my compass without spectables unless I will move 2 or 300 miles further back w'ch as yet I have have no thought of—I am

Your obt. Serv't.

G. HUME.

LETTER FROM JAMES HUME, JR. 1810.

[A copy of letter—original owned by Mrs. Julia Ellis.]

Dear Sir—

I rec'd your letter some time since w'ch was dated the 29th of Dec. last. I am happy to inform you that I & my family

enjoy a great share of health at this time. My Mother is just getting out of a long spell of sickness—My father lies very ill but hope there is no danger. Your friends in this part of the country that I have seen or heard of are all well. I am happy to hear of your well fare & that of your family tho certainly sorry to hear of our old uncle Williams death you wrote me to inform you how our affairs stood respecting the Estates of Wedderburn & Marchmont. It has been out of my power to give you such satisfactory an answer as you would wish until of late. I will now inform you everything I know—Last fall a Mr. Alex'r Dick came to Fredericksburg, a scotch & Brittish agent from Edinburg near the estate of Wedderburn & is well acquainted with the estate. I was recommended by Mr. Rob't Patton & other friends to make a friend of Mr. Dick. I have done so & directed him to make every inquiry about the estate & to give me the earliest information which he has done—about 2 months past he complied with his promise. I rec'd his letter directed to R. Patton & then to me. He informs me he has made every inquiry & has searched all the records for the intale but he cant find the entale nor any one that has any title to the estate. So much as the claims from this country which Mr. Dick verily believes from the papers I have shown him that we are the heirs at law & that we only have any rights to the estates of Wedderburn & Marchmont. He writes me a Leftenant Home holds the estate in posession at this time. After the death of the last heir in that country there was no one to take the estates in posession—Parliament took charge of it until the right owner should come. This Leftenant Brought in a claim against the estate as a great creditor and was suffering for his money. Parliament put the estates in his possession if no better claim should come. Mr. Dick also informs me the Leftenant will stand a suit before he will give it up—but appears willing providing ourselves to be the right heirs, he is willing to come to a settlement and divide, which Mr. Dick recommends me to do for we nor our great grand children if we sue for it will never see the end of it. As to the estate of Marchmont he believes they will give that up. The man who holds it in possession is dead, & his widow now holds it and said

if the right owners come she is willing to give it up. All the above is now for your consideration & give me an answer to this letter what I am to do & how to proceed. I have taken all the affidavits but three which I shall take in 10 days from this time—when taking these affidavits I saw the power of atty you made my Father before my counsel and Magistrate & it wont do—It only extends in the U. S. and no farther—If you think proper for me to transact this business any further you must make another power to me. Stating the state you live in & County & what part of the U. S. your age &c and have the County seal to it, well witnessed & identified before 2 magistrates. If you think proper to get an attorney to do it get the best you can get for every hole will be pushed out before they will give up. Mr. Dick wishes if we think proper for him to do the business for us—he will do it & leave it to us to give him any part we please out of what is obtained and he will do for us as if he were doing for himself. I wish to send him a true copy of all the affidavits & a copy of the power of atty also. The original I shall hold until I get an answer from him after he receives them which will be next spring if he can send on this fall as I wish to do. all my papers are sent through Robt. Patton & all I receive is through him or a friend—Nothing more at this time until I can get further information & hear from you. Maj'r Charles Barnes has promised to deliver this to you or send it by a safe hand.

I subscribe myself your friend & well wisher & at command

JAMES HUME, JR.

Oct. 5th 1810.

A copy of a power of attorney sent to James Hume to act in the estates of Wedderburn and Marshmont in Scotland:

To all whom these presents may come, know ye that I George Hume Junior resident in Madison County and State of Kentucky within the United States of America of the age of fifty-one years have constituted ordained and appointed, and by these presents do constitute ordain and appoint my friend James Hume Senior of the County of Culpeper and State of Virginia my true and Lawful attorney for me and in my name

to sue for and recover to compromise and compound with adverse Claimants or to sell and alien by good and sufficient deed or deeds the Estates of Wedderburn and Marshmont situate and lying in Scotland within the dominions of the King of Great Britain, and I do hereby give and grant unto the said Attorney full power and authority to do and transact all manner of things relative to the premises aforesaid as fully and amply as I myself might or could do were I personally present transacting the same and I hereby empower and authorize my said attorney to constitute and appoint one or more attorneys under him for the purpose of transacting said business in the realm of Scotland, and such power so given or made again at pleasure to revoke nevertheless it is expressly to be understood that I am to be at no costs or charges relative to the transacting any business under this power of attorney except what may be paid out of the aforesaid Estates when they come into my possession or what may be paid out of the sale of said Estate or Estates when I may have actually received the money they may have bin sold for and I do hereby ratify and confirm what my said Attorneys may do in the premisses as fully as if I were personally to transact the same. in testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 10th day of December in the year of our Lord 1811 at the County of Madison and state of Kentucky.

test

G. HUME JR.

CHRISTOPHER IRVINE. WILLIAM RODES.

Madison County.

I do hereby certify that this power of attorney was produced to me as Clerk of the Court for the County aforesaid on the 10th day of December 1811. which was acknowledged by George Hume resident of the County aforesaid to be his act and deed for the purposes the said contained and the same has been duly recorded in my office.

In testimony I William Irvine Clerk of the Court for
(Seal) the County aforesaid have hereunto subscribed my name and affixed the seal of said office this day and date first above written

WILLIAM IRVINE.

Commonwealth of Kentucky Madison County Ielicit.

I Green Clay presiding Justice of the County Court of Madison County do hereby certify that William Irvine whose certificate is hereto annexed is acting Clerk to run said County Court and that due faith and credit ought to be given to all his official acts and attestations as such, and that the foregoing power of attorney and certificate thereto annexed are in due form of law. Given under my hand and seal this 12th day of December in year of our Lord 1811.

GREEN CLAY.

James married Catharine Barnes, October 5th, 1797.

He was the brother of Armistead Hume.*

Through the kindness of Mrs. Julia A. Hume Ellis, of Richmond, Ky., I have the pleasure of examining the original Field Book of George Hume—the fly leaf has the following:

Field Book Feb. 1st 1755.

George Hume Surv'r

Frederick County

This book is filled up with the field notes of survey of Frederick county, Va., and although showing great age, is in good state of preservation.

FRANK HUME.

Alexandria Co., Va., March 14, 1893.

Minute of Vestry St. George Parish, Monday, 7th Oct. 1728.

To Mr. George Home for reading at Rapp'k 4 months Ending Feb 11th 1727-8.

Minute of Vestry Mon. June 16, 1729.

It's ordered that George Home & Benjamin Cudd do and are by ye vestry appointed & required to Count all the Tobacco plants &c in the same precincts that Capt. William Hansford &c.

Minute Oct. 3, 1732. Parish Levy.

To Mr. George Home for keeping a Child 7 months 583

*Armistead Hume was my grandfather —F. H.

Minute Tuesday June 5, 1733.

Ordered & it is agreed with George Home Surveyor to set the Church in Fredericksburg East & West & Lay off the lots & he is to have one hundred pounds of Tobacco at the Laying of the next Levy.

Ordered that the Church wardens of this parish do bind out a Bastard Child named William Rowan to Mr. George Home, the said Home—having took care of the same, to serve as the Law Directs.

These records are at the Episcopal Seminary in Alexandria county, Va.

Orange Ct. Ho. Va., Nov. 1737.

George Hume produced his commission as deputy Surveyor of Orange Co and took the oath of office and was sworn.

Record Book, No. 1, page 63. On Nov. 30, 1751 he gave bond as surveyor.

Land Office, Richmond, Va.

1666 to 1669, Page 508.

Orange Co. Va., Land Office.

Richmond Va.

Deed of 200 acres Land to Geo. Hume 1748. Fairfax, &c., 1751. 400 acres 1757. 200 acres.

Francis Hume 609 acres from Fairfax. A. D. July 1760 lands in Culpeper Co. Va. The Deed recites Francis Hume of Culpeper Co in the Great fork of the Rappahannock River.

Wm. Berkley to John Hume a Deed for 523 acres of land in New Kent Co Va on the North East side of the Mataponi River being due said Hume for transporting ten persons into the Colony. Apl. 7th 1674.

Josial Hingslaw.

Eli Badmore.

Saml Hardle.

Kirkland Bannan.

Wm. Cole.

Jos. Elliott.

Jno. Blake.

Jno Wamsley.

Robt Tome.

Saml Kidley.

Years Book 1666 to 1669.

Va. Record Land Office Richmond. Book No. 6, Page 508.

From Va. State Papers.

In the list of Rebel prisoners imported by Capt. Edward Trafford in the ship Elizabeth & Annie from Liverpool arriving at Williamsburg Jan 14th 1716 appears the name of Francis Hume who landed at Yorktown.

He was transported for adhering to the Stuart cause becoming factor to the Governor of Virginia in year 1717.